products and re-direction of agricultural subsidies to poverty and hunger eradication were discussed. Bracketed text on achieving improvements in market access, phasing out of export subsidies and reduction of trade distorting practices in agriculture were considered together with other trade related issues. However, due to their domestic compulsions, developed countries did not agree to lift farm subsidies and thus it did not find place in the agreed texts of Political Declaration and Johannesburg Plan of Implementation.

As against the internationally agreed norm of providing 0.7 per cent of their annual GNP as overseas development assistance, developed countries had only provided 0.22 per cent of their GNP as ODA to developing countries in 1997. The Plan of Implementation once again urged the developed countries to fulfill this commitment. In their counter arguments developed countries linked the aid to good governance at the national level in the developing countries. However, India and the other developing countries are of the view that there is, in addition to good governance at national level, a need for better coordination among various agencies leading to improved international environmental governance.

Integrated Forestry Development Project in Gujarat

3160. SHRI BACHANILEKHRAJ : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the proposal of Gujarat Government on Integrated Forestry Development Project has been lying with Ministry of Finance for long, pending clearance;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) by when the said proposal would be cleared by the Ministry of Finance and sent to JBIC?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) The proposal of Gujarat Government titled 'Integrated Forestry Development Project' has been approved in principle by the Ministry of Environment and Forests.

(b) and (c) It has been decided to pose the project to Japan Bank for International Cooperation for seeking external assistance during 2003-2004.